

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:568

ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017

Ashram Schools

Basheer Shri E. T. Mohammed;Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Centrally sponsored scheme "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan" along with the number of Ashram Schools in the country, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the certain reports about Ashram schools providing inadequate diet resulting in prevalence of malnutrition among students studying therein and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the details of monitoring and vigilance mechanism put in place by the Government to monitor the administration and functioning of Ashram schools in the country;
- (d) whether any irregularity have been reported come to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon and the steps taken /being taken by the Government to further improve the functioning of Ashram schools in the country:

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JASWANTSINH BHABHOR)

(a) The objective of the scheme is to provide residential schools for STs in an environment conducive to learning to increase the literacy rate among the tribal students and to bring them at par with other population of the country. Under the scheme, State Governments are eligible for 100% central share for construction of all Girls' Ashram Schools and also for construction of Boys' Ashram Schools in naxal affected areas. The funding pattern for the other Boys' Ashram Schools is on 50:50 basis, while cent percent assistance is given to UTs for construction of both Girls' and Boys' Ashram Schools. The scheme covers primary, middle, secondary and senior secondary level of education. Number of Ashram Schools in the country, State / UT-wise is available at Annexure.

(b) to (e) Ministry of Tribal Affairs releases grants-in-aid only for construction of Ashram Schools under the Scheme of Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas.

Management, operation and day-to-day running of these Ashram Schools is the responsibility of concerned State Government. The Government is aware of certain reports regarding malnutrition. In this regard, the concerned States have been addressed.

Ministry is also providing funds under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP) and through grants under article 275(1) of the Constitution to States for establishing backyard kitchen gardens in schools for nutritional security.

Ministry has issued advisories to all state governments on various aspects, including the following:

I. Engagement of trained lady health workers as Wardens/Assistant Wardens in girls' hostels.

II. Construction of boundary walls in both schools and hostels with gatekeepers to restrict entry and monitoring of visitors.

III. Construction of functional girls' toilets within hostel building for safety.

IV. Co-educational Residential schools (200-300 students capacity) in block headquarters for quality education and physical safety.

V. Promotion of traditional food (minor millets and greens) in schools, meals for nutritional security.

VI. Involvement of parents and community in the school management.

Government has undertaken various interventions for nutritional security, health, hygiene and safe drinking water which include, inter alia, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) of Ministry of Women and Child Development, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Mid Day Meals Scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Drinking Water & Total Sanitation Campaign of Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.568 for answer on 6.02.2017 by Shrimati Mausam Noor, Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer, regarding "Ashram Schools"

Sl. No.

State/UT

Number of Ashram Schools

1 2 3

1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands NIL
2. Andhra Pradesh 180
3. Arunachal Pradesh Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
4. Assam 3
5. Bihar NIL
6. Chhattisgarh 157
7. Daman & Diu NIL
8. Dadra & Nagar Haveli Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
9. Goa 1
10. Gujarat 164
11. Himachal Pradesh NIL
12. Jammu & Kashmir NIL
13. Jharkhand 11
14. Karnataka 28
15. Kerala 11
16. Lakshadweep Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
17. Madhya Pradesh 405
18. Maharashtra 95
19. Manipur NIL
20. Meghalaya Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
21. Mizoram Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
22. Nagaland Non TSP State/UT. Hence not covered under Scheme.
23. Odisha 97
24. Rajasthan 9
25. Sikkim 1
26. Tamil Nadu NIL
27. Tripura 24
28. Uttar Pradesh 7
29. Uttarakhand 12
30. West Bengal NIL
- Total 1205